

at odds with such a state as existed, and could not get its aid to restore his slaves. Hence the extension of the state made the slaves worse off, e.g. in Russia and parts of Germany.<sup>1</sup>

Amongst the Franks "slavery took many forms." The vicissitudes of life produced the strongest contrasts of fortune.

Freeman<sup>2</sup> mentions a case in which a boy king reigned, but his mother, formerly a slave woman, reigned as queen in rank and authority, and the power was really exercised by the man who was once her owner. "In the system of a Frankish kingdom a slave-born queen could play, with more of legal sanction, the part often played in Mohammedan courts by the mother of the sultan, son of a slave." The Franks had a peculiar ceremony of manumission. The lord struck a coin from the hand of his slave to the ground, and the slave became free.<sup>3</sup> Philippe le Bel, enfranchising the serfs of Valois, in

the interest of the *Fiscus*, uttered a generality which Louis le Hutin reiterated: "Seeing that every human creature who is formed in the image of our Lord, ought, generally speaking, to be free by natural right, — no one ought to be a serf in France."<sup>1</sup> In the eighth and ninth centuries serfs were sold to Jews who sold them to Mohammedans. Montpellier carried on a slave trade with the Saracens. The clergy joined in this trade in the twelfth century, and it is said to have lasted until the fifteenth century.<sup>4</sup> The Romance of Hervis (of about the beginning of the thirteenth century) turns on the story of a youth who ransomed a girl who had been kidnapped by some soldiers. They proposed to take her to Paris and sell her at the fair there. The Parliament of Bordeaux, in

1571, granted  
liberty to Ethiopians and other slaves, " since  
France cannot  
admit any servitude." Still slavery existed in the  
southern  
provinces, including persons of every color and  
nationality.<sup>6</sup>  
Biot<sup>6</sup> thinks that the slave trade in the Middle Ages  
was carried  
on chiefly by pirates, so that slave markets existed  
on the coast

<sup>1</sup> Vinogradoff, *Vikinage*, 152.  
186.

<sup>5</sup> D'Avenel, *Hist. Econ.*, I,

<sup>2</sup> *West. Europe in the Eighth Century*, n. <sup>6</sup> *Abol. de l'Esclavage*, 264.

<sup>8</sup> Grimm, *Rechtsalt.* ^ 178.

\* Bourquelot, *Poires de Champagne* ^ *Acad. d. Belles Lettres et  
Inscrip.* ^ 1865, 307.